

Kansas Farmers are needed to promote October as Farm to School Month!

The Farm to School initiative is an effort to connect K-12 schools with regional or local farms in order to serve healthy meals using local foods. During the month of October, Kansas Schools will be promoting local fruits and vegetables in School Nutrition Programs. We need your help to identify farmers who are willing to-

- 1) Supply area schools with Kansas grown produce for classroom tastings and snacks throughout the month of October
- 2) Provide Kansas grown produce for the Food Day menu served at schools October 24<sup>th</sup>
- 3) Organize a Farm Field Trip or Classroom Presentation for our schools

An informal bid document is provided (attached) with a list of the types of produce schools are interested in for the month's events. KSDE's HACCP guidance (attached) requires that a letter is on file for each supplier/vendor stating that they have a HACCP plan in place with standard operating procedures for produce production, harvesting and post-harvest handling OR that they follow safe food handling procedures. Traceability of the produce used is required.

Please enclose this letter (attach) with the bid document to: Barb Depew, Farm to School Project Manager, 19565 Pauling Run Road, Wamego, KS 66547 or email [bdepew@ksde.org](mailto:bdepew@ksde.org)

You may also contact Sarah Green, the Department of Agriculture's Local Foods & Rural Outreach Coordinator at 785-296-4172 or via email at [Sarah.Green@kda.ks.gov](mailto:Sarah.Green@kda.ks.gov).

Your contact information will be placed on our website with a list of the produce available from your farm as a resource for our area schools for these events. We hope you will help join together to celebrate the connections between local food and schools!